



PRESS RELEASE

PSA RSSO II empowers its women employees through Financial Literacy and Mental Wellness

Date of Release: 17 March 2025
Reference No. PR-2025-013



Left: Resource Speakers of the Capacity Building during their respective talks. Center photo: Women of PSA RSSO II post for posterity with the first speaker Ms. Madriaga of BSP. Right photo: Women of PSA RSSO II formed a circle during an activity facilitated by the speakers from the DSWD.

13-15 March 2025, SAN MANUEL, ISABELA – In celebration of Women's Month, the Philippine Statistics Authority Regional Statistical Services Office II (PSA RSSO II) successfully conducted a two-day capacity-building workshop for its women employees from the regional office and selected employees of the Provincial Statistical Offices (PSOs). The event took place from March 14 to 15, 2025, at Last Regnant, San Manuel, Isabela, with the aim of empowering women through knowledge and skills development. The activity also forms part of its commitment to promote gender equality and enabling women in the workplace or elsewhere to live life to the full.

In her message, Engr. Rose Q. Pacay, Chief Administrative Officer of PSA RSSO II, shared that "Empowering women is not just about giving them opportunities; it's recognizing their potential across all aspects of life and supporting them to grow. Women need environments where they can thrive as well," she shared.

The capacity-building initiative became more impactful, effective, and memorable through a series of four lectures emphasizing the importance of women. One notable lecture, delivered by Ms. Mary Jane Cabauatan, presented statistics on women's involvement in Cagayan Valley's economy, specifically highlighting their contributions to employment and the significant awards they have received.

Also, a session discussed by Ms. Elena Madriaga, Planning Officer IV of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), on financial planning followed. Ms. Madriaga emphasized the importance of financial literacy for women and said that to realize one's personal and professional goals; effective financial planning is necessary. "Understanding financial management enables women to make informed decisions, protect their



financial future and build wealth for themselves and their families," Ms. Madriaga shared.

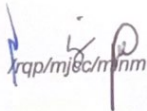
After this session, Ms. Fritzie Jane Wandas, Psychologist I and Ms. Muna May S. Balinag, Psychologist III of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Region 02 shared the importance of balancing life and work and prioritizing mental health in the workplace. This included activities to strengthen a woman's sense of her own abilities and build recognition and success.

Lastly, Mr. Ernesto M. De Peralta, Jr. tackled the important topic of gender sensitivity, emphasizing its critical role in fostering an inclusive and equitable society.

On the second day, participants came together for a team-building activity which served to foster greater unity highlighted by a midsummer dress parade in which employees not only bonded with one another but also showed off their creativity.

In closing, Engr. Girme M. Bayucan, Officer-in-charge, had this to share concerning women's empowerment: "Empowering women is essential to creating an equitable society. When women are empowered, they in turn elevate their communities and make a significant contribution to national growth. We must continue to work for women's rights and ensure that their voice is heard." He also added that the event represents just one of a series of initiatives designed to create an environment in which women may develop and grow.

ENGR. GIRME M. BAYUCAN
Chief Statistical Specialist
Officer-In-Charge, PSA-RSSO II


/rqp/mjbc/m/nm